GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4942
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005
DENIAL OF VISA TO GUJARAT CM
Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar;Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .;Rathod Shri Harisingh Nasaru;Singh Shri Dushyant;Yadav Shri Baleshwar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the Government is aware of denial of visa by the USA to the Chief Minister of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conveyed its views on the issue to the United States;

(d) if so, the reaction of the USA thereto; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government thereafter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a),(b)&(c) The Government learnt on 18 March 2005 of the US decision to deny a visa to Shri Narendra Modi, Chief Minister of Gujarat. The visa had been requested by the Ministry of External Affairs through a Note Verbale to the US Embassy on 28 February 2005. The Government conveyed its views to the US Government that this action displays a lack of courtesy towards a constitutionally elected Chief Minister. A protest was lodged with the Embassy and reconsideration of its decision was urged.

(d) & (e) The US Embassy announced on March 21, 2005 that the US had not revised its decision of March 18, 2005. The Government conveyed its regrets that in spite of its demarche, the US had not reconsidered its decision.